

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EB-07

AID-05 IGA-02 AGR-05 AF-06 IO-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 /090 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8175

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 05649

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, GV, USEC, FR

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL FRENCH FOOD ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA

REF: CONAKRY 0360

1. FRANCE REGULARLY MAKES BILATERAL FOOD GRANTS TO COUNTRIES IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. IT ALSO PROVIDES ABOUT ONE QUARTER OF THE FOOD GRANTS MADE BY THE EC. ACCORDING TO A MINISTRY OF COOPERATION SOURCE, FRANCE WILL MAKE BILATERAL GRANTS OF 144,000 MT IN 1976. IN ADDITION, 30,000 MT REMAIN FROM THE 1975 ALLOCATION. OF THIS TOTAL OF 174,000 MT, A MAXIMUM OF 108,000 MT HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN EARMARKED; A LARGE PORTION OF THE BALANCE PROBABLY WILL GO TO THE WFP. ENOUGH WILL REMAIN, HOWEVER, FOR A POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO GUINEA. (WHILE EC FIGURES FOR 1976 ARE NOT YET ESTABLISHED, FRANCE PROBABLY WILL ALSO CONTRIBUTE ABOUT 180,000 MT THROUGH EC GRANTS.)

2. WE HAVE NOT RAISED RECENTLY THE QUESTION OF AID TO GUINEA WITH THE FRENCH. IN DISCUSSIONS TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO, THE QUAI INDICATED THAT FRANCE WOULD GO SLOWLY BEFORE RESUMING AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ELYSEE SETS A HIGHER PRIORITY ON

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IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH GUINEA THAN DOES THE QUAI. THUS

AT A MOMENT WHEN THE FRENCH ARE TRYING TO REFURBISH THE IMAGE CREATED IN AFRICA BY THEIR POLICY IN DJIBOUTI, COMOROS AND ANGOLA, WE THINK THE ELYSEE IS APT TO DECIDE TO GRANT "RADICAL" GUINEA EARLY ASSISTANCE. THIS MIGHT WELL TAKE THE FORM OF FOOD AID.

RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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